(b) whether Bharat Electronics and Electronics Corporation of India are likely to suffer due to Ministry's import programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) is at present engaged in the design and development of a main Digital Electronic Switching System. The C-DOT is not engaged in the manufacture of any telecommunication equipment.

(b) No Sir.

Withholding of Central Permission for Bodghat Project

1625. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has withheld permission for Bodhghat Hydro-electrical project in Madhya Pradesh which required destruction of sal forests in Bastar; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) This project involves submergence of 5.704 ha. of rich sal forest. A decision on the diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not been possible because of inconsistent forest details furnished so far. A field visit is to be made in December, 1986 to determine the exact quantum of forests likely to be lost.

Prior Central Approval for projects in States

1626. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many schemes in States such as Bodhghat hydel power scheme are initiated without obtaining Central clearance from ecological point of view;

(b) whether Government propose to urge States to obtain prior Central approval of the project which require destruction of forests; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Forest "Conservation" Act, 1980 which came into force in October, 1980 provides that forest land cannot be diverted to non-forest use without prior approval of the Central Government. All the States have been advised that *ex-post facto* approval would not be granted for diversion of forest lands and that they should not take anticipatory action.

Communal Riots in the States

1627. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of deaths and value of property lost due to communal clashes in the country, state-wise, during the period from January to July, 1986;

(b) the total number of major riots, state-wise and number of deaths due to communal riots during the corresponding period of 1985; and

(c) what specific steps if any, have been or being taken by Government to maintain communal harmony in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND